

Grant # - 1237

Project Title: Evelyn J Cameron – Terry, MT and Beyond

Project Director: Elisa Leach

In response to the Panel Comments we present the following:

- 1) The Prairie County Economic Development Council, (EDC) organized and administered the Lady Cameron Heritage Celebrations in 2005 and 2006. These events brought over 600 people to Terry in 2005 and over 100 in 2006 and an unknown number throughout the year. The EDC was instrumental in working with Carol Lambert to draft legislation to honor Terry, MT with the designation as the Official Home of the Evelyn Cameron Gallery. The EDC authored the successful application to induct Terry, MT as a Preserve America community and a recent successful grant application to promote Terry's historical and cultural hiking opportunities.
- 2) The EDC has a relationship with the Custer County Art Center director, Mark Browning, who is utilized for guidance in all areas concerning Cameron's photographs. Elizabeth Montalvo has a B.S., with honors, in Fine Arts from Northern State University, South Dakota and she is involved with the organization as well with cataloging and framing. Aside from the cultural resources above, the EDC utilizes the County Extension Agent, local residents and local organizations to achieve its goals.
- 3) The grant funds will be used as follows:
 - a. Fund the framing of the original photographs currently owned by the EDC, 45
 - b. Fund the staff to promote and oversee the traveling exhibit
 - c. Fund the staff to promote Evelyn J. Cameron work and increase the number of visitors to the Official Home of the Evelyn J. Cameron Gallery in Terry, MT.
 - d. Fund the staff to answer questions and guide the direction of the www.evelyncameron.com website.
 - e. Fund the staff to oversee the Lady Cameron Heritage Celebration

We believe that we can find the right person to dedicate their time to the above projects. Aside from working on the above major goals this person would also spend time seeking funding for future projects relating to the acquisition of the Cameron Collection, housing that collection and managing the promotion of Cameron's work. While \$10 per hour is not a high wage, we believe and know there are those individuals with the skills needed that are willing to work for that amount because of the nature of this project.

- 4) This grant request is NOT to fund purchasing work or making a DVD.
- 5) The framing costs were derived from discussions with Custer County Art Center with materials at cost if we could provide an individual for labor. Grant proceeds would be funding the cost of that labor and materials.
- 6) The EDC has been successful in numerous projects and all on a volunteer basis. However, as a volunteer organization we realize that we need monetary support to effectively promote the work of Evelyn J. Cameron. We believe that if we can fund this type of position then we will see increased numbers at the Cameron Gallery. The benefits of increased visitors will create a domino effect to the businesses and members of the Terry community and is the best opportunity for economic development that our town has at this time. Aside from the EDC's involvement in the promotion Evelyn J. Cameron's work, the local chamber is utilizing her image and name on a billboard along I-94. Additionally, due to the continued efforts of the EDC the Montana Department of Transportation is in the process of adding signage regarding the gallery along I-94.